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FM AMEMBASSY COLOMBO  
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1149  
INFO RUCNMEM/EU MEMBER STATES COLLECTIVE PRIORITY  
RUEHKA/AMEMBASSY DHAKA PRIORITY 2286  
RUEHIL/AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD PRIORITY 9308  
RUEHKT/AMEMBASSY KATHMANDU PRIORITY 7563  
RUEHLO/AMEMBASSY LONDON PRIORITY 5388  
RUEHNE/AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI PRIORITY 3723  
RUEHNY/AMEMBASSY OSLO PRIORITY 5313  
RUEHOT/AMEMBASSY OTTAWA PRIORITY 0174  
RUEHSM/AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM PRIORITY 0835  
RUEHKO/AMEMBASSY TOKYO PRIORITY 4435  
RUEHCG/AMCONSUL CHENNAI PRIORITY 9871  
RUEHBI/AMCONSUL MUMBAI PRIORITY 7158  
RUEHON/AMCONSUL TORONTO PRIORITY 0169  
RHEFDIA/DIA WASHINGTON DC PRIORITY  
RUEHGV/USMISSION GENEVA PRIORITY 0016  
RHHMUNA/HQ USFACOM HONOLULU HI PRIORITY  
RUEHBS/USEU BRUSSELS PRIORITY  
RHEHAAA/NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL WASHINGTON DC PRIORITY  
RUEKJCS/SECDEF WASHDC PRIORITY

S E C R E T SECTION 01 OF 04 COLOMBO 000050

SIPDIS

DEPARTMENT FOR SCA/INSB E.O. 12958: DECL: 01/22/2020

TAGS: [PGOV](#) [PREL](#) [PREF](#) [PHUM](#) [PTER](#) [EAID](#) [MOPS](#) [CE](#)

SUBJECT: SRI LANKA: ASSESSING PROGRESS ON KEY ISSUES REF: A. 09 COLOMBO 1176 B. COLOMBO 32 C. COLOMBO 8 COLOMBO 00000050 001.8 OF 004

Classified By: AMBASSADOR PATRICIA A. BUTENIS. REASONS: 1.4 (B, D)

- 1.(S) According to Congressional mandates and Administration policy, U.S. assistance to Sri Lanka, particularly military assistance, is tied to
- 2.(S) Outlined below are these key issue areas with discussion of what progress has been made so far and what further progress we would like to
- 3.(S) It also is important to note that the upcoming presidential election -- particularly if it were to result in an opposition victory -- could impact IDPs ----
- 4.(S) There has been a dramatic improvement in the treatment of IDPs and their living conditions over the past several months. Whether because
- 5.(S) Next steps: COLOMBO 00000050 002.4 OF 004 -- Renew ICRC mandate. -- Provide transparent criteria and regularized processes for INGO access Human Rights -----
- 6.(S) Numbers of disappearances have experienced a steady and significant decline across the island since the end of the war, and the Attorney
- 7.(S) Child soldiers affiliated with the TMVP have been significantly reduced over the past year, with just five reportedly remaining at the end
- 8.(S) Next steps: -- Disappearances continue to decline, and investigations continue to rise. The team under A.G. Peiris, in particular, should Political Reconciliation -----
- 9.(S) Although progress has been slow, the presidential elections -- particularly the fact that the two main candidates are splitting the Sinhala
- 10.(S) Next Steps: -- Some sort of power-sharing or decentralization arrangement to accommodate minority rights. Should be locally developed (if Accountability -----
- 11.(S) Accountability for alleged crimes committed by GSL troops and officials during the war is the most difficult issue on our bilateral agenda
- 12.(S) Accountability also has not been a top priority for Tamils in Sri Lanka. While Tamils have told us they would like to see some form of accountability
- 13.(S) Despite these considerations, there have been some tentative steps on accountability. Soon after the appearance of the State Department
- 14.(S) Rajapaksa Next Steps: -- Presidential experts' committee makes credible recommendations for dealing with the allegations in the State Department
- 15.(S) Fonseka Next Steps: -- Begins national dialogue on the war and its human costs. -- Creation of a serious and credible truth and reconciliation